

§ 134.101

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Subpart A—General Rules

§ 134.101 Definitions.

As used in this part:

AA/OHA means the Assistant Administrator for OHA.

Act means the Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. 631 *et seq.*

Address means the primary home or business address of a person or entity, including the street location or postal box number, city or town, state, and postal zip code.

Area Office means a Government Contracting Area Office or a Disaster Area Office of the Small Business Administration.

Day means a calendar day, unless a Judge specifies otherwise.

Hearing means the presentation and consideration of argument and evidence. A hearing need not include live testimony or argument.

Investment Act means the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, 15 U.S.C. 661 *et seq.*

Judge means an Administrative Law Judge or an Administrative Judge of OHA, or the AA/OHA when he or she acts as an Administrative Judge.

OHA means the Office of Hearings and Appeals.

Party means the petitioner, respondent, or intervenor.

Person means an individual or any form of business entity.

Petition means a written complaint, a written appeal from an SBA determination, or a written request for the initiation of proceedings before OHA.

Pleading means a petition, an order to show cause commencing a case, an appeal petition, an answer, or any amendment or supplement to those documents.

Respondent means any person or governmental agency against which a case has been brought before OHA.

SBA means the Small Business Administration.

SIC code means Standard Industrial Classification code.

Size determination means a formal size determination made by an Area Office.

§ 134.102 Jurisdiction of OHA.

OHA has authority to conduct proceedings in the following cases:

(a) The revocation or suspension of Small Business Investment Company licenses, cease and desist orders, and the removal or suspension of directors and officers of licensees, under the Investment Act and part 107 of this chapter;

(b) Alleged violations of those civil rights laws which are effectuated by parts 112, 113, 117, and 136 of this chapter;

(c) The revocation of the privilege of a person to conduct business with SBA under the Act and part 103 of this chapter;

(d) The eligibility of, or preferred or certified status of, any bank or non-bank lender to continue to participate in SBA loan programs under the Act and part 120 of this chapter;

(e) The suspension or termination of surety bond program participants under 15 U.S.C. 694a *et seq.* and part 115 of this chapter;

(f) The rights, privileges, or obligations of development companies under section 504 of the Investment Act and part 120, subpart H, of this chapter;

(g) Allowance of fees and expenses under the Equal Access to Justice Act, 5 U.S.C. 504;

(h) Debarment from appearance before the SBA because of post-employment restrictions under 18 U.S.C. 207 and part 105 of this chapter;

(i) Collection of debts owed to SBA and the United States under the Debt

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Collection Act of 1982 and part 140 of this chapter;

(j) Appeals from the following SBA 8(a) program determinations under the Act and part 124 of this chapter:

(1) Denial of program admission based solely on a negative finding as to social disadvantage, economic disadvantage, ownership or control; program termination; program graduation; or denial of a waiver of the requirement to perform to completion an 8(a) contract; and

(2) Program suspension;

(k) Appeals from size determinations and SIC code designations under part 121 of this chapter;

(l) The imposition of civil penalties and assessments against persons who make false claims or statements to SBA under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act, 31 U.S.C. 3801-3812 and part 142 of this chapter; and

(m) Any other hearing, determination, or appeal proceeding referred to OHA by the Administrator of SBA.

§ 134.103 Rules applicable to time periods provided in this part.

(a) The day from which the time period is computed is excluded, but the last business day is counted, excluding Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday.

(b) At the Judge's initiative, or upon the motion of a party showing good cause, the Judge may modify any of the applicable time limits, other than those established by statute and those governing when a case may be commenced. Any motion to extend a time limit must be filed and served before the expiration of that time limit.

Subpart B—Rules of Practice for Most Cases

§ 134.201 Scope of the rules in this subpart B.

The rules in this subpart generally apply to all proceedings over which OHA has jurisdiction, except for appeals from size determinations and SIC code designations. Specific procedural rules pertaining to 8(a) program appeals and to proceedings under the Program Fraud Civil Remedies Act are set forth, respectively in subpart D of this part and part 142 of this chapter. In the case of a conflict between a particular

rule in this subpart and a rule of procedure pertaining to OHA appearing in another subpart of this part or another part of this chapter, the latter rule shall govern.

[61 FR 2683, Jan. 29, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 35766, June 30, 1998]

§ 134.202 Commencement of cases.

A case may be commenced by filing a written petition within the following time periods:

(a) Except as provided by paragraphs (b) through (d) of this section, no later than 45 days from the date of service of the SBA action or determination to which the petition relates;

(b) In debt collection proceedings under part 140 of this chapter, no later than 15 days after receipt of a notice of indebtedness and intention to collect such debt by salary or administrative offset;

(c) In applications for an award of fees pursuant to subpart E of this part, no later than 30 days after the decision to which it applies becomes final;

(d) For 8(a) program suspension proceedings, see § 134.305 of this chapter.

[61 FR 2683, Jan. 29, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 35766, June 30, 1998]

§ 134.203 The petition.

(a) A petition must contain the following:

(1) The basis of OHA's jurisdiction;

(2) The SBA determination being appealed.

(3) A clear and concise statement of the factual basis of the case;

(4) The relief being sought; and

(5) The name, address, telephone number, and signature of the petitioner or its attorney.

(b) A petition which does not contain all of the information required by paragraph (a) of this section may be dismissed, with or without prejudice, at the Judge's own initiative, or upon motion of the respondent.

[61 FR 2683, Jan. 29, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 35766, June 30, 1998]

§ 134.204 Service and filing requirements.

(a) *Service.* Each party is responsible for the service of its pleadings and